

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed February 21, 2007 has been carefully reviewed along with the references cited therein. In the Office Action, claims 1-5, 9, 10, 13-19, 25-28 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wallach et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,925,679) in view of Kilstrom et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,781,960). Claims 6-8 were rejected under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wallach et al. in view of Clark et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,605,156). Claim 11 was rejected under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wallach et al. and Kilstrom et al. as applied to claim 10 above, and further in view of Fukuda et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,953,252). Claims 12, 21-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wallach et al. and Kilstrom as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Jones et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0187249). Claims 29-35 and 37 were allowed. Claim 20 was indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

In this Office Action, claims 2, 5, 10, 12, 21, 25 and 27-29 have been amended. Claims 1 and 26 have been canceled without prejudice. Claim 29 has been amended only to correct a typographical error.

The Office Action indicates with regard to claim 38 that the nozzle assembly in Kilstrom et al. is releasably connected to the drive housing as shown in Figures 5 and 6. Column 3, line 29 through line 50 describe the nozzle section of Kilstrom et al.

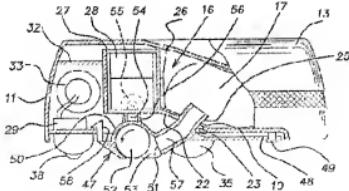


FIG. 5

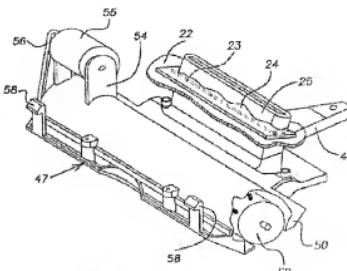


FIG. 6

Kilstrom describes a nozzle part 47 having a central front arm 48 that is supported by a ball joint 49 (Figure 5). The arm 48 can turn vertically about the ball joint

49 at the same time that it can turn about a horizontal axis. Applicant is unable to locate where Kilstrom et al. describe that the nozzle part is releasably connected to the chassis. Moreover, Kilstrom et al. go on to disclose that the nozzle part 50 includes several hooks 58 that cooperate with the chassis to limit downward movement of the nozzle. As seen in Figure 5, the hooks 58 appear to permanently attach the nozzle part 47 to the chassis when inserted through the opening (not numbered) in the chassis. There does not appear to be an opening in the chassis to allow for the release of the hook 58 from the chassis. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Kilstrom et al. do not disclose a nozzle section being releasably connected to a drive housing. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the rejection of claim 38 and that he find claim 38 to be patentable over the combination of Wallach et al. and Kilstrom et al.

Claims that depended directly from claim 1, which has been cancelled from the application, have been amended to depend from claim 38. Also, slight claim amendments have been made to other claims in response to certain claims being amended to depend from claim 38.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons detailed above, it is respectfully submitted all claims remaining in the application are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early indication of the same is earnestly solicited. In any event, should the Examiner consider personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

APPL. SER. No. 10/662,247

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL OFFICE ACTION CONTD.

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